

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-02 ISO-00 /005 R

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DRAFTED BY EB-NPAZDRAL:MW

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

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FOR ASST SECRETARY ENDERS

FOL REPEAT DOHA 0440 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO
ABU DHABI BEIRUT JIDDA KUWAIT MANAMA MUSCAT
TEHRAN APR 13

QTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE DOHA 0440

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, ENRG, QA, OTRA

SUBJ: KRAFT MEETING WITH AMIR OF QATAR

1. COLUMNIST JOSEPH KRAFT MET WITH SHAYKH KHALIFA BIN HAMAD
AL THANI, AMIR OF QATAR, ON APRIL 10. KRAFT SUBSEQUENTLY PRO-
VIDED US WITH WHAT HE CONSIDERED MOST INTERESTING POINTS MADE
BY AMIR DURING DISCUSSION:

(A) PRO-RATIONING PRODUCTION AMONG OIL PRODUCERS A CERTAINTY;

(B) U.S. THREATS TO INTERVENE IN OIL PRODUCING STATES NOT
RPT NOT REAL. (EMBASSY COMMENT: AMIR THOUGHT THREATS WERE
REAL ENOUGH TO USE THEM AS REASON FOR REFUSING U.S. NAVAL SHIP
VISIT AND HE RAILED AGAINST THEM AT SOME LENGTH IN HIS TALK
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WITH SENATOR PERCY IN JANUARY. HE HAS ALSO CRITICIZED ALLEGED

THREATS TO ME, TO OTHER DIPLOMATS HERE AND TO SOME FOREIGN VISITORS.)

(C) OIL SITUATION A LA ABU DHABI CAN NOT RPT NOT HAPPEN HERE, SINCE PRODUCTION REDUCED "NINE MONTHS AGO". (EMBASSY COMMENT: AMIR APPARENTLY REFERRING TO PRODUCTION CEILING SET BY GOQ FOR CONSERVATION PURPOSES AFTER LIFTING OF OIL EMBARGO. HOWEVER, QATARI PRODUCTION HAS SUBSTANTIALLY DROPPED DURING PAST THREE MONTHS AS RESULT OF MARKET SURPLUS AND HIGH PRICE OF QATARI CRUDE (DOHA 425). AT SAME TIME, IT DOES APPEAR THAT PRODUCTION CUT NOT RPT NOT REALLY HURTING GOQ FINANCIALLY, ALTHOUGH SOME OFFICIALS HAVE EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER REVENUE LOSS.)

(D) ENERGY CRISIS COMPLETELY SEPARATE FROM ARAB-ISRAELI DISPUTE AND MUST BE DEALT WITH WITHIN CONTEXT OF CREATION OF "NEW WORLD ECONOMIC ORDER". (EMBASSY COMMENT: AMIR'S REMARKS NOTWITHSTANDING, GOQ PARTICIPATED IN OIL EMBARGO AND AMIR HAS REPEATEDLY INDICATED THAT ARABS MAY USE OIL WEAPON AGAIN IF SETTLEMENT OF MID EAST DISPUTE SO REQUIRES.)

2. COMMENT: KRAFT TOLD US THAT HE IS GATHERING MATERIAL FOR A "LETTER FROM THE GULF", WHICH HE IS PREPARING FOR "NEW YORKER" MAGAZINE. KRAFT SEEMED SATISFIED WITH HIS VISIT TO DOHA SINCE HE HAD ACCOMPLISHED HIS PRIMARY MISSION OF MEETING WITH AMIR. WE PUT IN ANOTHER PLUG FOR KRAFT WITH MINISTER OF INFORMATION, AND THIS MAY HAVE BEEN HELPFUL. IN ANY CASE, KRAFT WAS APPRECIATIVE, AND OUR CONTACTS WITH HIM WERE PLEASANT AND RELAXED, ALTHOUGH WE UNDERSTAND THAT HE HAD SOME HARSH WORDS FOR DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION WHO WAS LATE MEETING HIM AT AIRPORT. INFO DIRECTOR LATER TOLD AMBASSADOR THAT HE AND KRAFT WERE "ALMOST GETTING TO BE FRIENDS". KRAFT TOLD US THAT NEA/ARP DIRECTOR DICKMAN HAD STRONGLY RECOMMENDED THAT HE TRY FOR APPOINTMENT WITH AMIR--IT WOULD HAVE BEEN HELPFUL FOR US TO HAVE KNOWN THIS EARLIER IN THE GAME.
PAGANELLI

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KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PETROLEUM, INTERVENTION, ENERGY, EXPORTERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE085144
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: NPAZDRAL:MW
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750130-0681
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750454/aaaabxxf.tel
Line Count: 99
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 MAY 2003 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <15 MAY 2003 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: KRAFT MEETING WITH AMIR OF QATAR
TAGS: PFOR, ENRG, OTRA, QA, US, (THANI, KHALIFA IBN HAMAD AL), (KRAFT, JOSEPH),
To: PARIS
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006